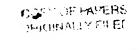
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Patent Docket P3230R1C159

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dan L. Eaton et al.

Serial No.: 10/063731

Filed: 5/8/2002

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

September 5, 2002

Patricia Terrill

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

## In the specification:

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

## -- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 10/006867 filed 12/6/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/23328 filed 8/24/2000, which is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to. US Application 09/403297 filed 10/18/1999, now abandoned, which is the

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Filed: 5 8/2002

National Stage filed under 35 USC §371 of PCT Application PCT US99 20111 filed 9/1/1999, which claims priority under 35 USC §119 to US Provisional Application 60/105000 filed 10/20/1998.--